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COMMUNICATIONS.

[The New National Era does not hold itself responsible for views expressed by correspondents. Well written and interesting communications will be gladly received.]

Republican Prospects in Mississippi.

To the Editor of the New National Era:
Our former anticipations of carrying this State by a substantial majority at the approaching election are being strengthened every day. We shall not be able to defeat the Democrats by as large a majority as we did in 1869, as the issues then (though the same now) were fought under peculiar circumstances. Then, as you will remember, Judge Dent ran under the banner of the "National Union Republican Party," though such Democrats in the State as could swallow him and the name of his banner were all the support he got, while Jas. L. Alcorn was the standard-bearer of the true Republican party.

A few Democrats nominated Dent in order to gain negro votes; but the majority bolted, or were neutral, as they could not support a carpet-bagger, and a relative of Grant. Our party brought out Alcorn, whose long residence, wealth, position, and influence silenced a great many, who might otherwise have voted against him. But things are quite different now, and the issues are being fought solely upon their merits. The Democrats have brought out their best material, and are making a vigorous canvass; and the result of our election on the 7th of November next may be looked upon as a criterion of our political standing. We have large majorities in all the river counties from the Gulf to the Tennessee line, and in most of the counties in the central portion of the State; but the Democrats can defeat us in most of those bordering on Alabama. Most of the counties have made their nominations, and the canvass is now getting at its height. Our ablest men are in the field and are doing a good work. An able joint discussion is now in progress between Gov. Alcorn on our part and Gen. Robert Lowry on the part of the Democrats. The issues of the discussion are so strong against Gen. Lowry that his friends can see nothing but defeat for him. Gen. Lowry discusses the principles of the Democratic party as opposed to the legality of the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments; and Governor Alcorn discusses the principles of the Republican party and sustains the amendments. The present administration of the State is also brought into the discussion. Governor Alcorn is a fine, impressive, logical, and graceful speaker, and generally convinces his hearers; while General Lowry—I understand, as I have never heard him—is not an impressive speaker, but an incessant bore, as he inflicts a three or four hours' speech upon his audiences. Our Republican majority in the Legislature was not so great as it was the last two years; but the colored element will be much larger. Indeed, the colored element in all the public offices will be much larger than heretofore. In this county—the banner of the State—the following nominations were made at our recent convention. Those marked with an asterisk are colored. For Sheriff, Col. Chas. E. Furlow; Clerk of Chancery Court, T. W. Cardozo; County Assessor, J. W. Browne; County Treasurer, Peter Crosby; Coroner and Ranger, E. D. Richardson; Surveyor, A. L. Pierce; Senator, Peter Barrow; members of the Legislature, H. C. Carter, W. H. Malloy, George E. Hasie, J. D. Shadd, and C. W. Bask. Colored men have also been nominated for sheriff (the best paying office in the State) in two of the richest counties in the State—Adams and Washington. The thriving city of Natchez is in the former county; and others will get the same office in other counties.

We are not working against our white friends, but the colored voters feeling that they are largely in the majority, put forward their own men as fast as they are qualified and able to reflect credit upon the race by filling the offices creditably to which they aspire. The Democrats will make no regular opposition to us in the county, as our majority is insurmountable; but they will give us a desperate fight at the city election, which comes off in December. We hope, however, with good nominations, and accession to our ranks of the Jews and Germans, and a few Irish—all of whom are quite numerous here—to elect our city officers by a few hundred majority. Could you not come down and give us a lift if our executive committee should send for you?

CIVIS.

Letter from Oberlin, Ohio.

OVERLIN, OHIO, Oct. 11, 1871.
To the Editor of the New National Era:
Think not, Mr. Editor, that it is a source of any pleasure to us to prolong a controversy of a jocular import, such as characterizes your columns in the issue of September 28th; but we deem it incumbent upon ourselves, in behalf of misrepresented and sorrowful citizens, to give vent to the bitterness of our feelings over the "burlesque," as it is termed, that graces your issue of September 28th, in the shape of a letter from Oberlin. The letter, as you are aware it starts out, essayed to be a true correction of some objectionable ideas expressed in the letter from Oberlin in your issue of September 14th. But the writer, we presume, not discovering any objections that would bear the scrutiny of the public eye, inspired with a purpose to gain notoriety as a newspaper correspondent, in giving publicity to vain thoughts of a loose and peculiar nature, and forgetting the deep solemnity that ought to pervade every heart in the consideration of this subject, and the high appreciation that the joyful recipients of this national benefaction should show for the Harper's Ferry martyr, who was the harbinger to the victory we now enjoy, sought to vent his personal spleen in the publication of this "burlesque," as the thoughtless rabble are prone to call it. Now, the paramount idea which prompts this explanation, is not that those of us here who have acquainted ourselves with the movement may keep up, in controversy, what may be right and of personal satisfaction to ourselves; but, in view of the extensive circulation that your journal has, and is still acquiring, among the masses, and the natural inference consequent upon reading this "burlesque," we direct this to obviate all false inferences which may have been drawn by thousands abroad, whose high sense of honor will not permit them to sanction or drink in, without a murmur, the "burlesque" on this grave issue. We are not devoid of any stigma that may be thrust at our efforts, for we know, when we discover an article bearing the signature of your late cor-

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respondent, what significance to attribute to it; but, as we are taught to love our enemies, we truly sympathize with him in this late breach so suicidal. As the bitter poison that is spewed from the lips of some tobaccoist against the strong current of the wind is blown back into the brazen countenance of its manufacturer with bitter rebuke, so the verdict of the people, so denunciatory to this boasted "joke," throws back into the face of its author the bitter fruits of his "joke," and thus, as the unfortunate De Quincey, he dies from a bitter poison mixed by his own fatal hand. And it is a matter of greater surprise to us when we look upon him as being an active member of that organization which sits weekly in solemn council on a people's gratitude in the erection of a monument to the memory of the beloved Brown. Is there a member of that organization who pretends to feel a deep and solemn interest in the movement whose pathway has so lately been moistened with the dew of liberty, that can appreciate the propriety of this burlesque, without feeling that a desecration he attaches to the memory of the lamented Brown? Is there a man of African lineage in all the land who appreciates his new condition of human liberty that would sanction this desecration? Yes, who is there of Saxon lineage, whose breast beats a loyal heart, and who writes with the slow pulse of Anglo-Saxon blood, that does not feel an involuntary homage for the memory of John Brown? Can we presume to utter fifty the deep, fervent, religious joy that ought everywhere to pervade the breasts of the direct recipients of this fresh baptism of liberty?

We who endeavor to defend his memory publicly, experience a delicacy to a certain degree, for we know that the inference will be drawn that we are a strange, ungrateful people. But must we lie supinely in the face of obloquy, and without a murmur of defence, see published to the world, as representative, a vent of individual spleen? We desire all to know that not a single citizen objects to the feasibility of the movement, but on the other hand that they from with righteous indignation upon this misrepresentation. We would rejoice in the speedy concession of its author, and in an open retraction, of the desecration he has, perhaps, thoughtlessly committed. We trust that he has not a heart so granite that, while the open compassion of the people keeps him in his silent chamber in serious meditation over this rash stroke of his pen, that when those gallant spirits that took their flight from Harper's Ferry in the cause of freedom, and especially that one whose dust they buried beneath the snows of North Elm, hover around his troubled conscience, he will not be so invulnerable that the matchless power of the mighty dead will fall as it were upon a heart of flint. The main objectionable feature in the letter of September 14 seems to be in the admission as to the speculative motives some are wont to have in an enterprise of this kind. We know that other organizations have suffered and died because they were sapped of their life-blood by such mercenary tricksters, and in view of these lamentable examples, we only hoped that they would be spared from such an infectious malady. We still entertain the same hope, for we are as liable as any organization to be visited by such evils. We do not boast a perfection in this community that makes us of the number of those who are "perfect and have need of nothing." We believe that to be human is to be fallible.

We have not ceased ourselves in the spirit of revenge and communicated this correction; but we have called special attention of the citizens to both letters, and I have simply communicated their dictation. They all, with one accord, assent to the eminent propriety of the movement, and will lend their efforts in taking the wisest measures to awaken a deep interest among the masses; so that, by the power of union, there will be in a few years a towering expression of a people's gratitude in the erection of a national monument to the memory of the martyr chief.

Yours, most truly,
H. G. P. P.

[Having allowed the use of our columns to parties on both sides of this controversy, we must decline, after this, anything further in relation to the difference.—Ed.]

Sheridan at Chicago.

General Philip Sheridan is a soldier who has the nerve to assume heavy responsibilities and to bravely carry them through. When confronted with an unexpected duty he waits not for instructions, but acts according to the best of his judgment, and the country has had some reason to know that his judgment can be relied on. If, during the progress of the terrific conflict at Gettysburg, he had deemed it necessary to hang about such thieves, incendiaries, and plunderers as were caught playing their nefarious trades, he would have given the requisite order, and would have seen that it was carried out. And when the people were informed by telegraph that General Sheridan was administering justice in this summary manner, no one doubted the truth of the stories who knew anything about the character of the man. When the first three firms of the Western "journals" began to work up the incidents in sensational style, they gave such graphic accounts of these summary executions, that it was not surprising that the people of the whole country were convinced that he had actually taken place. The masses of the people having the greatest confidence in the tact, discretion, and courage of the General Sheridan, were prepared to justify him in the measures he had deemed necessary to be taken in the army of sounders who were ready to take advantage of the general consternation, and turn the masses of others to their own profit. Certain newspapers, however, having a chronic dislike for General Sheridan, on account of some military performances, in which he was a distinguished actor, forthwith began to cry out, "military usurpation." In the Chicago burglar with a halter around his neck, they saw the American citizen suffering death at the hand of a tyrant. Through the wall of flame that encircled the burning city they discerned the bulwark of the Union, and they were prepared to justify him in the measures he had deemed necessary to be taken in the army of sounders who were ready to take advantage of the general consternation, and turn the masses of others to their own profit.

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These vigilant guardians of *habeas corpus*, and the friends of the Constitution, are ordered nobody to be shot, and that nobody was shot. When read by the light of later dispatches, these splendid lamentations over the death of American freedom appear very like a subject nonsense.—*Baltimore American.*

—The profits of the milk business in Boston are said to be enormous. One contractor is stated to have realized \$15,000 in ten years, and could now dispose of his contract for \$20,000 additional. Even the poor milkmen who drive from door to door in the gray of the morning are compensated for cold fingers and blue noses by a high rate for their milk. A Boston firm printed, about 18 months ago, three Chicago book collectors, a special edition of only three copies of Longfellow's "Dante," which cost in the sheets \$335 a piece. —*New York Tribune.*

THE SOUTH CAROLINA KU-KLUX.

Proclamation by the President.

Habeas Corpus Suspended in Portions of South Carolina.

Whereas by an act of Congress, entitled "An act to enforce the provisions of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes," approved the twentieth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, power is given to the President of the United States, when in his judgment the public safety shall require it, to suspend the privileges of the writ of *habeas corpus* in any State or part of a State whenever combinations and conspiracies exist in such State or part of a State for the purpose of depriving any portion or class of the people of such State of the rights of life, liberty, and property, and protection named in the Constitution of the United States, and secured by the act of Congress aforesaid, and do so obstruct and hinder the execution of the laws of any such State, and of the United States, as to deprive the people aforesaid of the rights, privileges, immunities, and protection named in the Constitution of the United States, and to obstruct and hinder the execution of the laws of the United States and their due execution, and impede and obstruct the due course of justice under the same; and whenever such combinations shall be organized and armed, and the persons of the same shall be able by violence either to overthrow or to resist the constituted authorities of said State; and of the United States within said State; and whenever, by reason of said causes, the execution of the laws of the United States and the preservation of the public peace shall be in such State or part of a State impracticable;

And whereas such unlawful combinations and conspiracies for the purposes aforesaid are declared by the act of Congress aforesaid to be rebellion against the Government of the United States;

And whereas by said act of Congress it is provided that before the President shall suspend the writ of *habeas corpus* he shall first have made his proclamation commanding such insurgents to disperse;

And whereas on the twelfth day of the present month of October the President of the United States, in his proclamation, reciting therein, among other things, that he had responded would have been the man whose body was yesterday consigned to his final resting place. He said that on Tuesday last he rode in the neighborhood of the riotous and lawless element of the State of South Carolina, and commanding thereby persons composing such unlawful combinations and conspiracies to disperse and retire peacefully to their homes within five days from the date of his proclamation, and to the marshal of the United States for the district of South Carolina, and commanding thereby persons composing such unlawful combinations and conspiracies to disperse and retire peacefully to their homes within five days from the date of his proclamation, and to the marshal of the United States for the district of South Carolina, and commanding thereby persons composing such unlawful combinations and conspiracies to disperse and retire peacefully to their homes within five days from the date of his proclamation, and to the marshal of the United States for the district of South Carolina, and commanding thereby persons composing such unlawful combinations and conspiracies to 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